

Application No. 09/997,061
Applicants: Achim Franck et al.
Amendment in Response to Office Action dated May 20, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

19. (Currently Amended) A redetachable self-adhesive device bonded on a reverse side thereof to one side of a double-sided adhesive sheet, the adhesive sheet comprising a grip tab which projects beyond one end of the device, the adhesive sheet being capable of being released from a substrate to which it is bonded by grasping the grip tab and pulling on the grip tab in a direction of a plane of a bond formed between said adhesive sheet and said substrate, and the device comprises a region, on at least one end thereof, not abutting the adhesive sheet, but being offset therefrom a distance V , ~~wherein the reverse side comprises a region separated by the distance V from the adhesive sheet.~~

20. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the distance V is 0.1-1.5 mm.

21. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the distance V is 0.2-1 mm.

22. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the distance V ascends toward an edge over which the grip tab extends.

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23. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the distance V rises continuously or discontinuously in steps.

24. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the distance V rises continuously to an angle α of $5^\circ - 120^\circ$ between the region and the grip tab.

25. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 24, wherein the angle α is $10^\circ - 90^\circ$.

26. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the region has a breadth, ~~depth~~ W , which is equal to or greater than ~~at least~~ that of the adhesive sheet.

27. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the region measures 2-12 mm in its depth W .

28. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the region is roughened having an average roughness R_a of $0.4 - 25 \mu\text{m}$.

29. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the average roughness R_a is $2 - 20 \mu\text{m}$.

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30. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the region has an average depth of roughness R_z of 1-150 μm .

31. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the average depth of roughness R_z of 2 - 100 μm .

32. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the region is ~~reduced~~ formed together with the device by injection molding.

33. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 28, wherein the region is produced in a subsequent workstep selected from the group consisting of etching, grinding, embossing and spark erosion.

34. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the region comprises edges on which the adhesive sheet is capable of adhering with and the grip tab projecting beyond the edges, ~~and a~~ is separated from the distance V ~~between the region and the adhesive sheet~~ by the distance V.

35. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, further comprising spacers whose height is less than a thickness of the adhesive sheet.

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36. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 22, wherein the edge has a low static friction and sliding friction.

37. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the edge is a low-energy polymer surface.

38. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the adhesive sheet is elastically or plastically extensible with or without a carrier in between.

39. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the adhesive sheet exhibits an adhesion less than its cohesion, the adhesion largely disappears when the adhesive sheet is extended, and the adhesive sheet exhibits a ratio of peel force to tear load of at least 1:2.0, and the adhesive sheet being is based on thermoplastic rubber and tackifying resins, and exhibits high elasticity and low plasticity.

40. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the region is lined with a release laminate.

41. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the release laminate is a siliconized release paper or a release film.

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42. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 19, further comprising fixing means located on its front face and/or lateral face.

43. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 42, wherein the fixing means are hooks or latching projections.

44. (Previously Presented) A method of adhering and releasing a device to a substrate, the method comprising the following steps:

- a) providing a device according to claim 19;
- b) adhering the device to a substrate by adhering a free side of the adhesive sheet to said substrate; and
- c) releasing the device from the substrate by pulling on the grip tab on the adhesive sheet in a direction of a plane of a bond formed between the adhesive sheet and the substrate.